

Current Efforts & Innovations in Native Child Development Research Training: The Native Children's Research Exchange (NCRE)

Michelle Sarche, PhD

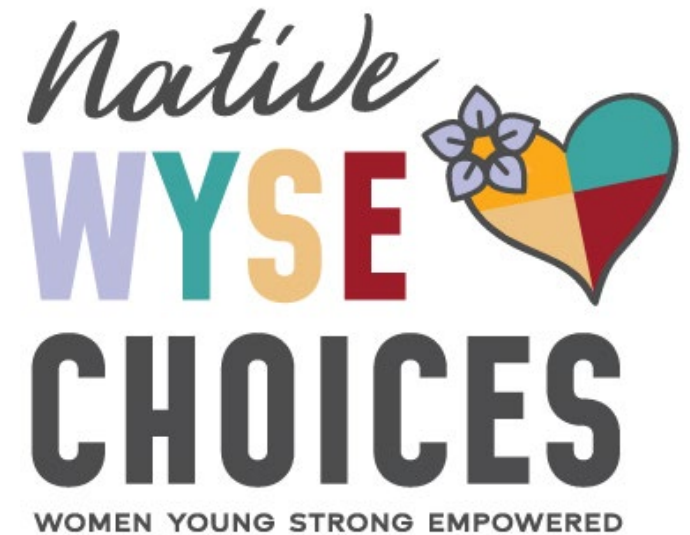
University of Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus, Centers for American
Indian and Alaska Native Health

Tribal Health Research Office Tribal Advisory Committee Meeting

August 16, 2023



Goals for today



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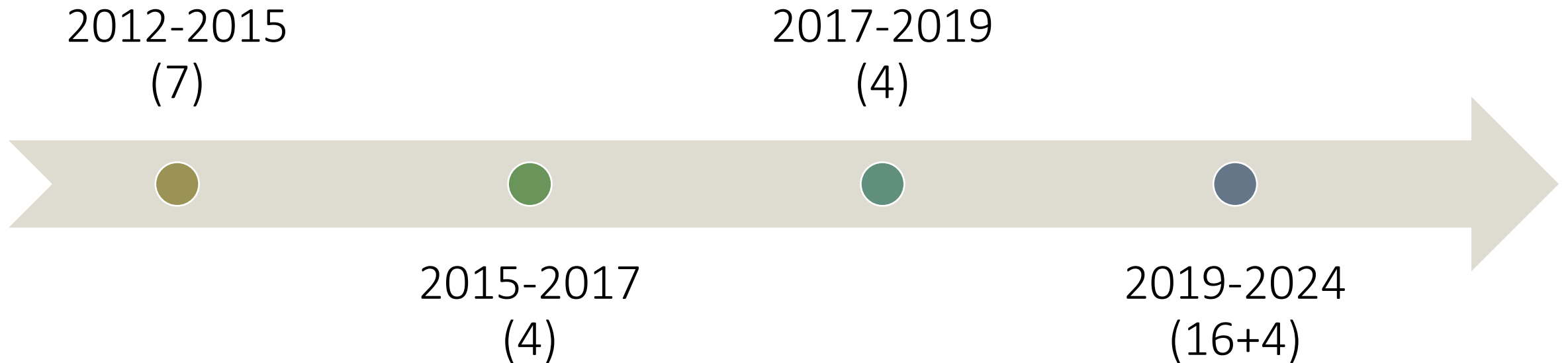
NCRE Scholars and
the NCRE Conference & Network



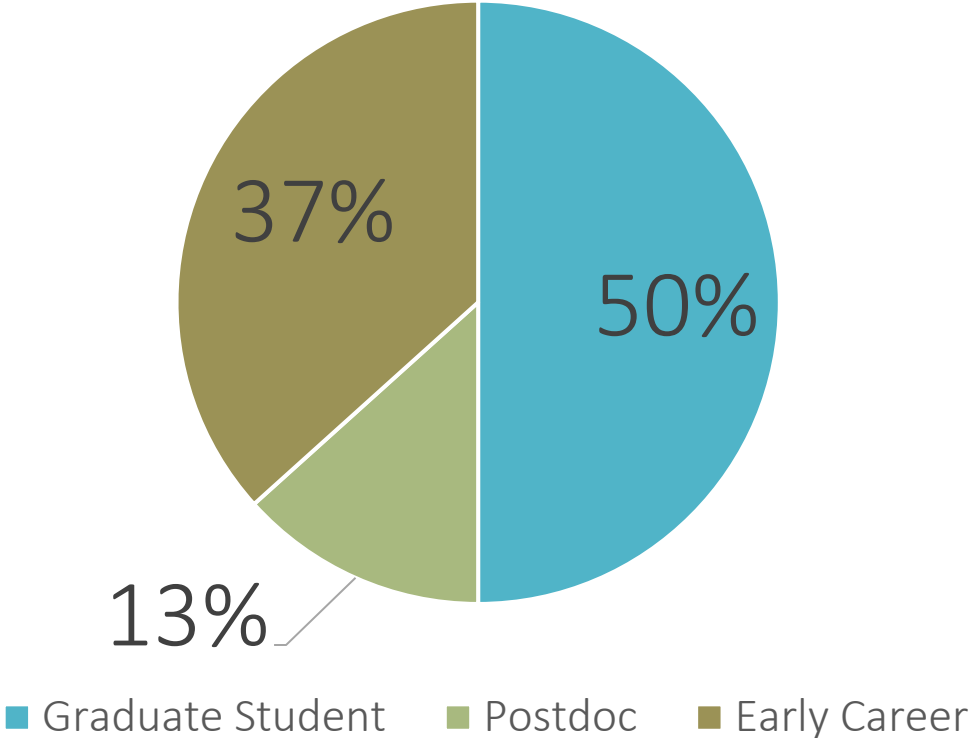
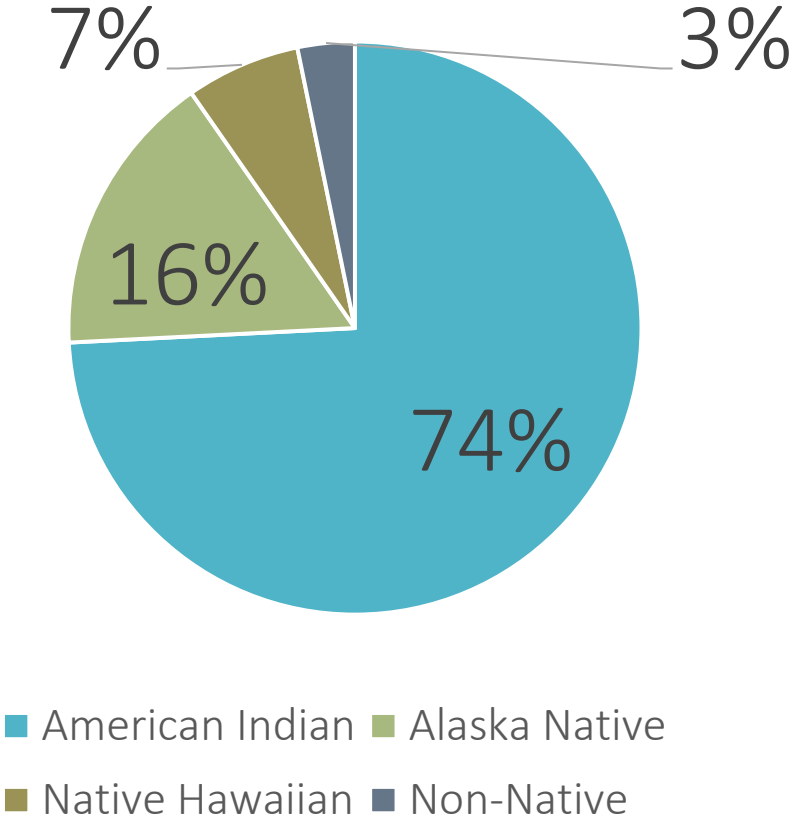


Native Children's Research Exchange Scholars Program

NCRE Scholars has been funded since 2012 by the National Institute on Drug Abuse



NCRE Scholars has supported 31 Scholars to-date, 35 by program conclusion



NCRE Scholars Tailored Career Development Approach

COMMON ACTIVITIES

Conferences

Society for Prevention Research
Native Children's Research Exchange

Courses

NIH Grant Writing (seminars, intensive writing week, mock review, responding to reviews)
Responsible Conduct of Research with AIANNH Communities

Intensive writing retreats

Monthly meetings

Program mentor meetings
Virtual writing workshops

Peer mentoring

TAILORED ACTIVITIES

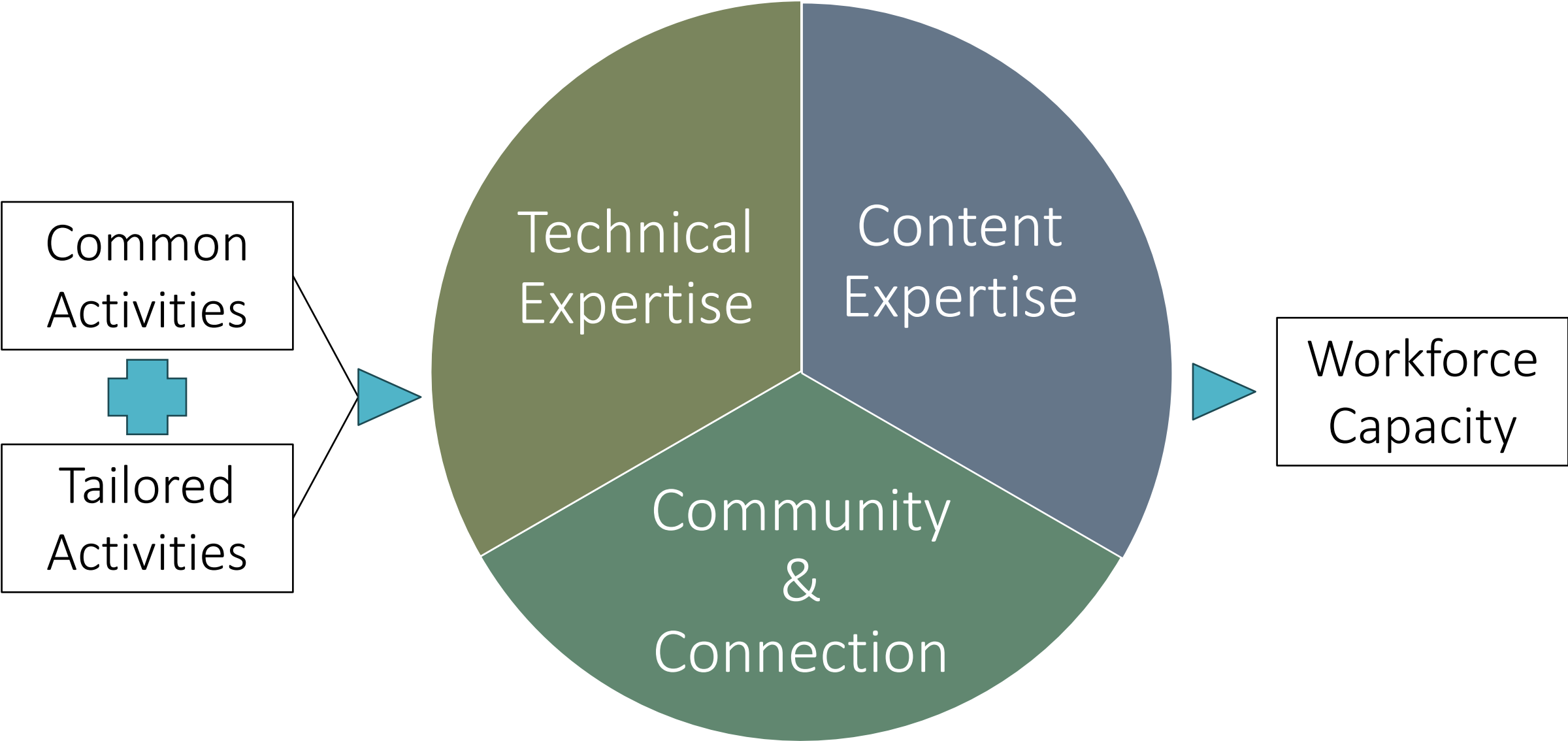
Research training

Conferences

Mentor meetings and visits

Research funds

NCRE Scholars Conceptual Model for Increasing Research Workforce Capacity



Some examples

Technical expertise

Understanding NIH mechanisms

Grantsmanship

Writing

Content expertise

Mixed methods

Indigenous methodologies

CBPR

Building community partnerships

Strengths-based research

Building connection and community

Building community partnerships

Accessing career opportunities

Navigating the academy

Building a national peer network



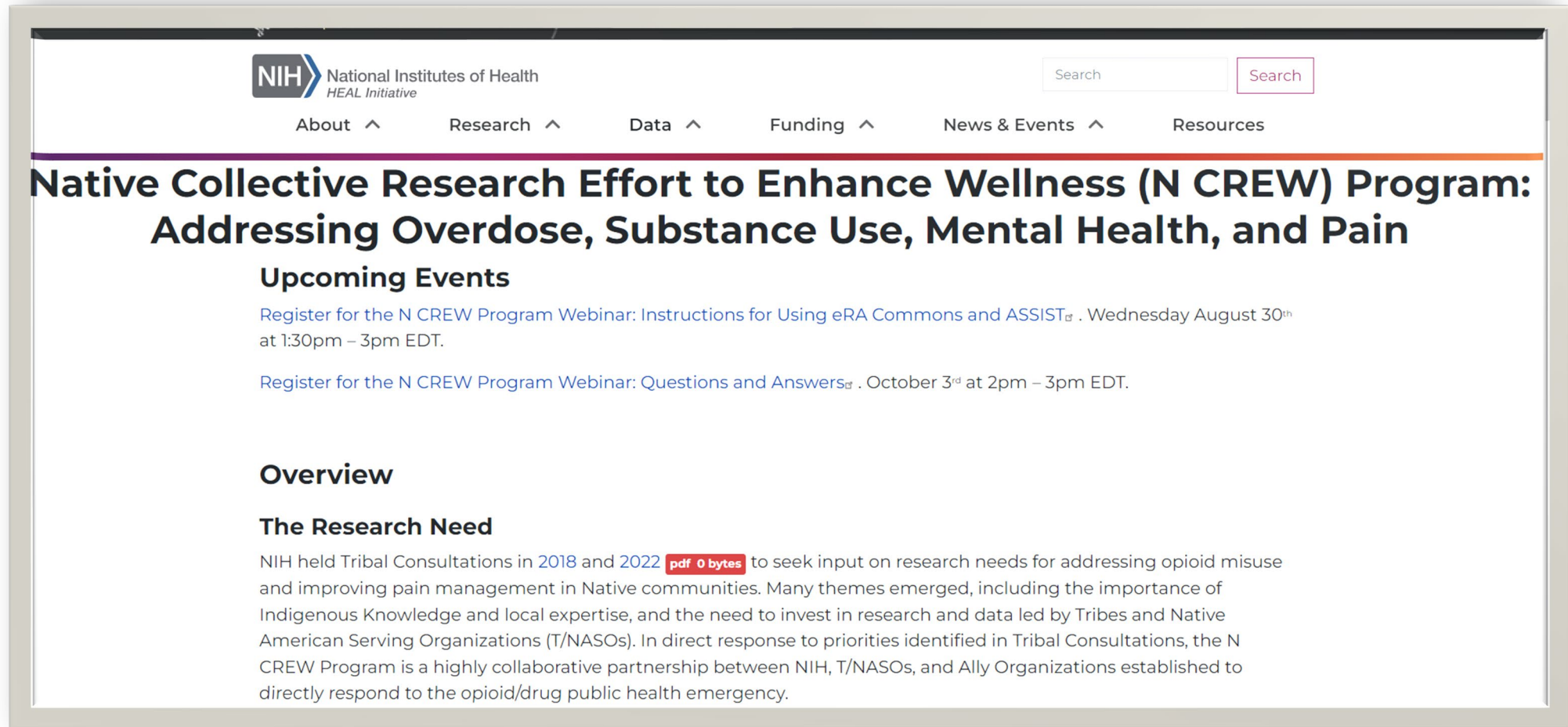
Workforce Capacity

A sufficiently-sized, culturally-informed *and representative* biomedical, social, and behavioral health research workforce that:

- Honors tribal sovereignty and wisdom
- Leverages the power of research, relying on both Indigenist-centered and Western scientific approaches
- Is prepared to work in both university-based and community-based settings

to support child, family, and community health and flourishing in partnership with American Indian, Alaska Native, and Native Hawaiian communities.

A call to grow *system* capacity



The screenshot shows the NIH HEAL Initiative website. At the top left is the NIH logo and the text "National Institutes of Health HEAL Initiative". To the right is a search bar with a "Search" button. Below the logo is a navigation menu with links for "About", "Research", "Data", "Funding", "News & Events", and "Resources". The main heading is "Native Collective Research Effort to Enhance Wellness (N CREW) Program: Addressing Overdose, Substance Use, Mental Health, and Pain". Below this is a section titled "Upcoming Events" with two links: "Register for the N CREW Program Webinar: Instructions for Using eRA Commons and ASSIST_{er} . Wednesday August 30th at 1:30pm – 3pm EDT." and "Register for the N CREW Program Webinar: Questions and Answers_{er} . October 3rd at 2pm – 3pm EDT.". Below that is an "Overview" section with a sub-heading "The Research Need". The text in this section describes Tribal Consultations in 2018 and 2022, a link to a PDF document, and the purpose of the N CREW Program.

NIH National Institutes of Health
HEAL Initiative

Search Search

About ^ Research ^ Data ^ Funding ^ News & Events ^ Resources

Native Collective Research Effort to Enhance Wellness (N CREW) Program: Addressing Overdose, Substance Use, Mental Health, and Pain

Upcoming Events

[Register for the N CREW Program Webinar: Instructions for Using eRA Commons and ASSIST_{er} . Wednesday August 30th at 1:30pm – 3pm EDT.](#)

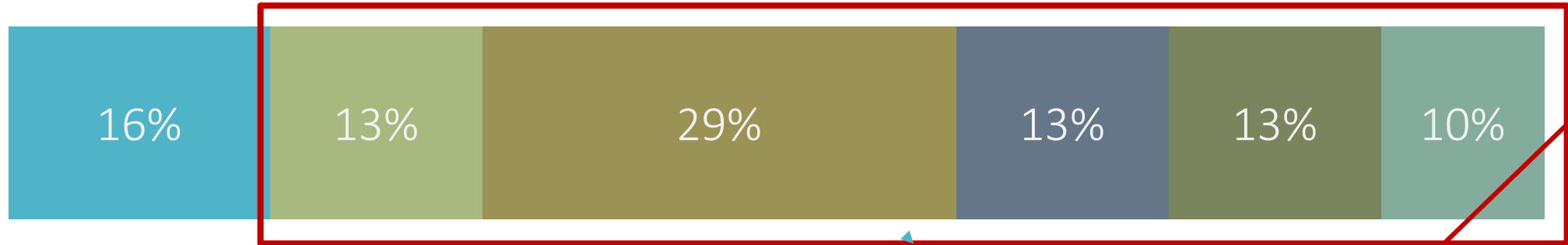
[Register for the N CREW Program Webinar: Questions and Answers_{er} . October 3rd at 2pm – 3pm EDT.](#)

Overview

The Research Need

NIH held Tribal Consultations in 2018 and 2022 [pdf 0 bytes](#) to seek input on research needs for addressing opioid misuse and improving pain management in Native communities. Many themes emerged, including the importance of Indigenous Knowledge and local expertise, and the need to invest in research and data led by Tribes and Native American Serving Organizations (T/NASOs). In direct response to priorities identified in Tribal Consultations, the N CREW Program is a highly collaborative partnership between NIH, T/NASOs, and Ally Organizations established to directly respond to the opioid/drug public health emergency.

Where are they now?

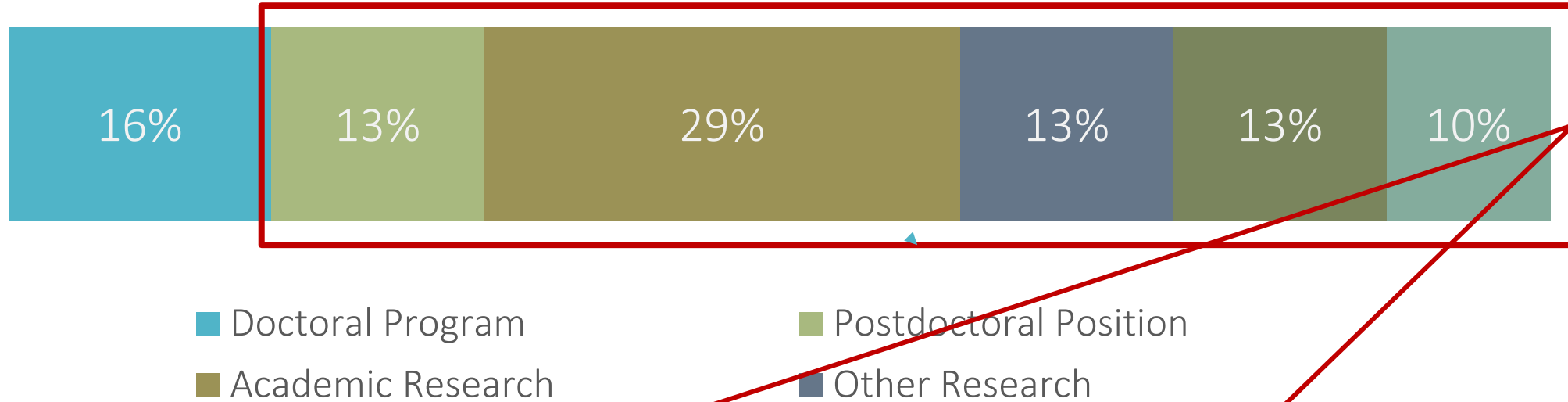


■ Doctoral Program
■ Academic Research

■ Postdoctoral Position
■ Other Research

58% of those in a postdoctoral position or beyond have some type of NIH support whether as PI, Co-I, or are otherwise supported

Where are they now?



Among the “other” positions is a tribal leader...
Dr. Alicia Mousseau, Oglala Sioux Tribe Vice President

58% of those in a postdoctoral position or beyond have some type of NIH support whether as PI, Co-I, or are otherwise supported

A shout out to the Scholars and mentors who are here...

Alicia Mousseau
Scholar, Cohort 1

Jessica Ullrich
Scholar, Cohort 8

Lorenda Belone
Mentor to Cass Armstrong and Nicole Reed (Cohort 11)

Teresa Brockie
Mentor to Meena Richardson (Cohort 11)

Kathy Etz
NIDA Program Official

Scholar Highlights



Amanda Hunter, PhD
Pasqua Yaqui Tribe
Postdoc,
Northern Arizona University

Evan White, PhD
Absentee Shawnee
Principal Investigator,
Laureate Institute for Brain Research

Jerreed Ivanich, PhD
Metlakatla Indian Community
Asst Professor,
University of Colorado

Katie Schultz, PhD
Choctaw
Asst Professor,
University of Michigan

Amanda Hunter | NIDA K99DA056842

Native Spirit: Culturally-Grounded Substance Use Prevention
for Indigenous Adolescents

Evan White | NIMH K99MD015735

Neuroscientific Exploration of Cultural Protective Factors in
American Indians

Jerreed Ivanich & Katie Schultz | NIDA R21DA053789

Tribal Reservation Adolescent Connections Study



Native Children's Research Exchange Network and Conference

The NCRE Network & Conference is Research Home to Many

14 conferences

100+ participants each conference

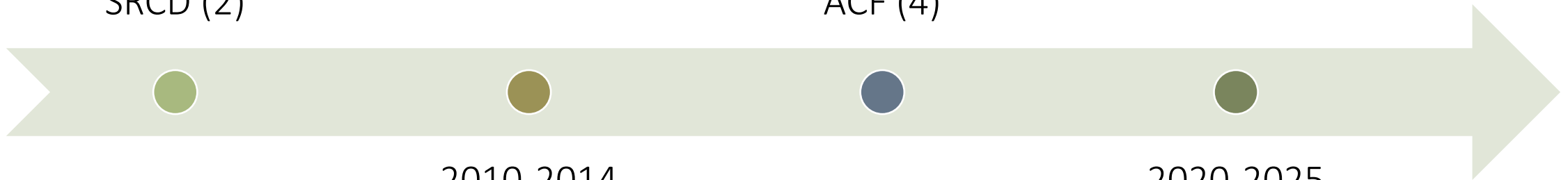
400+ listserv members

2008-2009
SRCD (2)

2015-2019
ACF (4)

2010-2014
NIDA (5)

2020-2025
NIDA & ACF (3+1)



December 9-10, 2021

Using Lessons Learned from 2020 to Understand Native Children's Development
and Create a Vision for the Future
Virtual

September 15-16, 2022

Lifting Up Solutions Grounded in Indigenous Culture and Wisdom to Address
Substance Misuse and Disorder and Support Indigenous Children's Development
in the Face of the Intersection Challenges of our Time
Denver, CO

September 14-15, 2023

Reflecting on Indigenous Methodologies in Native Child Development and
Substance Use Research to Guide Current Practices and Lead the Way Forward
Denver, CO

Special Issue of Adversity and Resilience Science – *forthcoming*

The connectedness framework for understanding the causes, consequences, and solutions to substance misuse and Indigenous children's development – Ivanich et al.

The child welfare system is a colonial stressor: Indigenous relative caregiver experiences with the child welfare system – Waubanascum & Sarche

Resilience and low substance use among Indigenous college students from a sexual assault prevention study. – Armstrong et al.

Addressing prenatal alcohol and other drug exposure in Tribal Child Welfare: An environmental scan – Geary et al.

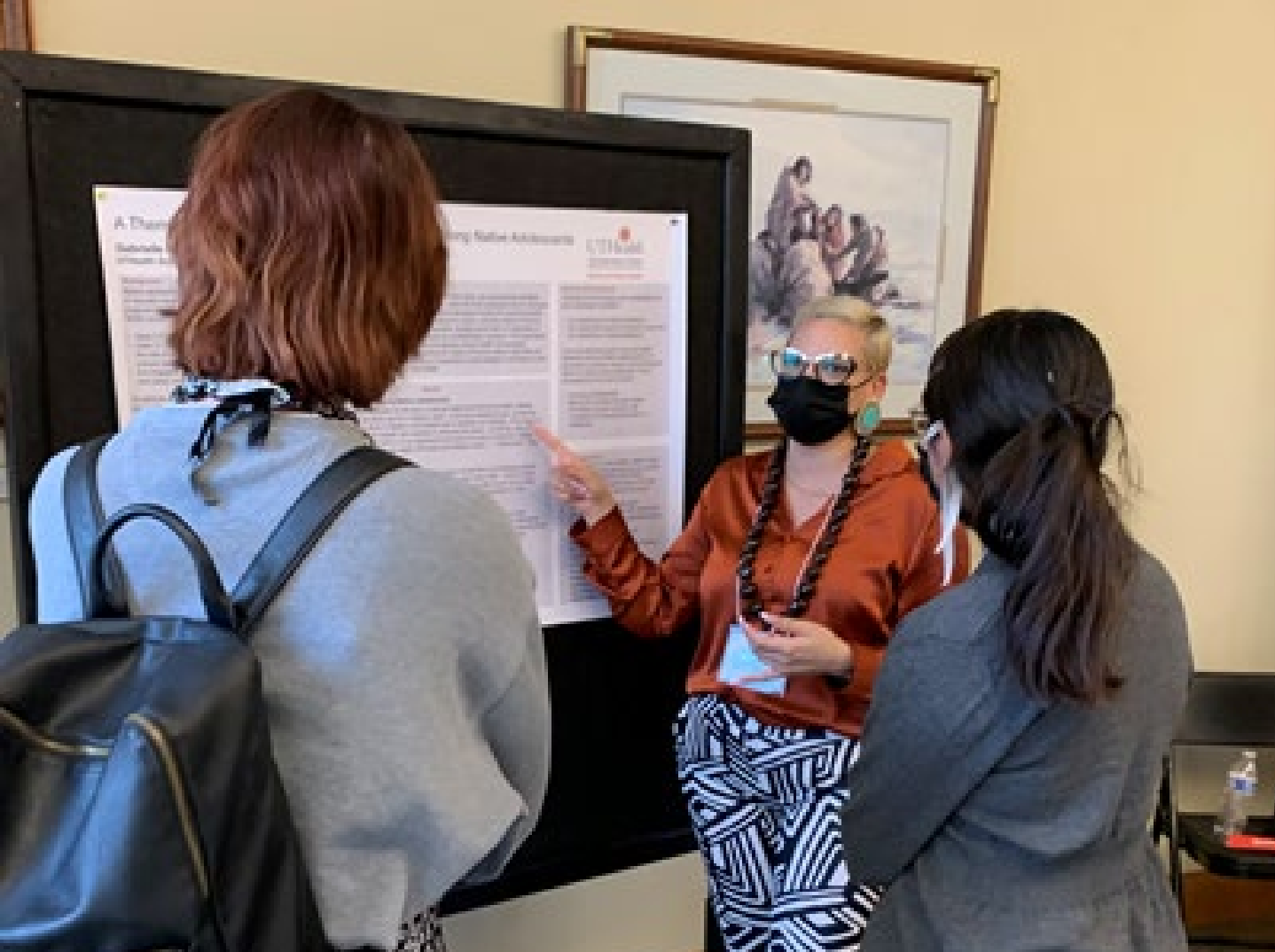
Unsettling settler colonialisms in research: Strategies centering Native American experiences and expertise in Native American youth substance use, alcohol exposed pregnancy, and suicide prevention – Tuitt et al.

Theory, measurement and psychometric properties of risk and protective factors for drug misuse among American Indian adolescents – Komro et al.

Developing the five factors survey: An innovation in multigenerational culturally responsive case management – Willer et al.

Creating a virtual Indigenist community-based-participatory approach (ICBPR) for engage urban Native young women in alcohol-exposed pregnancy prevention research – Reed et al.

Striving to be Pono (balance, just, fair & hopeful): Conceptualizing an Indigenous writing process from a Native Hawaiian cultural perspective – Martin et al.



Building the research career pipeline by supporting high school, college, and graduate students to...

1. Participate in NCRE conferences
2. Join the NCRE network
3. Access NCRE mentoring

The NCRE *stars* program
Students Thinking about Research CareerS

NCRE stars Highlight

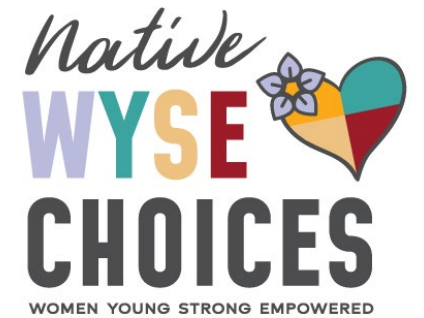
2014 NCRE Student Scholar, Bobby Pourier

<https://www.redcloudschool.org/ourstory/20160614/red-cloud-graduates-take-on-the-ivy-league>





Relationships, built and sustained over time, are at the heart!



Where to find us

www.ncrescholars.org

www.ncrenetwork.org

www.tribalearlychildhood.org

References

The Native Children's Research Exchange Scholars Program: Preparing the Next Generation of American Indian and Alaska Native Substance Abuse and Addiction Scientists –R25DA050645 (Whitesell & Sarche, MPI)

Engaging Scientists and Communities to Address the Impacts of Substance Abuse on American Indian and Alaska Native Children & Families: The Native Children's Research Exchange Annual Meetings –R13DA051122 (Whitesell & Sarche, MPI)

Native Spirit: Culturally-Grounded Substance Use Prevention for Indigenous Adolescents – K99DA056842 (Hunter, PI)

Neuroscientific Exploration of Cultural Protective Factors in American Indians–K99MD015735 (White, PI)

Tribal Reservation Adolescent Connections Study– R21DA053789 (Ivanich & Schultz, MPI)

The Tribal Early Childhood Research Center– 90PH0030 (ACF; Sarche, PI)

Preventing Alcohol Exposed Pregnancy among Urban Native Young Women: Mobile CHOICES –R01AA025603 (Kaufman & Sarche, MPI)



Miigwech!

